

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 073854

20

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FSE-00 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 RSC-01 H-03

/054 R

CHARGE TO MR. JOE SIMPKINS, TIFFANY INDUSTRIES
INC., 100 PROGRESS PARKWAY, MARYLAND HEIGHTS,
MISSOURI 63043

DRAFTED BY AF/W:ARMCKEE:RCB
APPROVED BY AF/W:RKSHERWOOD
----- 049257

R 111950Z APR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS STATE 073854

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTRA, NI
SUBJECT: TIFFANY INDUSTRIES AGRICULTURAL PROJECT IN MID-
WEST

1. ROY BLANTON, REPRESENTING TIFFANY INDUSTRIES, INC., ST.
LOUIS, MO., ADVISES THAT FIRM NOW HAS LETTER OF INTENT FROM
MID-WEST STATE GOVERNMENT FOR PROJECT TO CLEAR AND PUT INTO
CORN, SOYBEAN AND RICE PRODUCTION MINIMUM OF 15,000 ACRES
OF LAND ANNUALLY FOR SEVEN YEARS AND TO CONDUCT TRAINING
PROGRAM TO PREPARE NIGERIANS TO TAKE OVER FROM AMERICAN
MANAGERS. BLANTON INDICATES THAT MESSRS. MOE AND HAYS
FAMILIAR WITH PROPOSAL. HE REPORTS THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN
REACHED ON FINANCING AND TERMS FOR EQUIPMENT AND OPERATIONS,
AND SAYS ONLY QTE MINOR NEGOTIATIONS UNQTE REMAIN TO BE
COMPLETED. BLANTON STATES HE HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 073854

REPEATED RECENT EFFORTS TO COMMUNICATE TO BENIN THROUGH
COMMERCIAL CHANNELS, AND REQUESTS EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN
CONVEYING MESSAGES INDICATED BELOW - CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST-

SENATOR EAGLETON.

2. TO: MR. O. O. UZZI, PERMSEC, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND NATURAL RESOURCES, BENIN:

QUOTE YOUR REFERENCE AGC.197/158.

QTE IN YOUR LETTER OF 12 MARCH 1974 YOU REFER TO THE LARGE-
SCALE MECHANIZED FARM PROJECT AND YOU REQUEST THAT OFFICIALS
OF TIFFANY INDUSTRIES QTE HOLD YOURSELF IN READINESS TO
TRAVEL TO NIGERIA IN THE MONTH OF APRIL FOR THE PURPOSE OF
CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT FOR ESTABLISHING LARGE-SCALE
MECHANIZED FARM PROJECTS IN MID-WESTERN STATE. THE EXACT
DATE IN APRIL FOR THIS EXERCISE WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO YOU
BY CABLE. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT A HIGH-POWERED REPRESENTATION
OF YOUR ORGANIZATION, WHICH SHOULD INCLUDE MR. JOE
SIMPKINS, CHAIRMAN, TIFFANY INDUSTRIES, SHOULD TRAVEL TO
BENIN CITY TO CONCLUDE THE AGREEMENT. UNQTE.

QTE I HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR CABLE SETTING THE EXACT
DATE IN APRIL FOR THIS EXERCISE AND I AM LEAVING THE COUNTRY
IMMEDIATELY, AND WILL NOT RETURN TO MY OFFICE UNTIL 18
APRIL. I HAVE BOOKED RESERVATIONS FOR TIFFANY REPRESENTATIVES
TO LEAVE THE US ON 20 APRIL AND ARRIVE IN BENIN CITY
ON 22 APRIL, 1974, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE MID-WESTERN STATE AND
TIFFANY INDUSTRIES. WE ARE PLANNING TO STAY IN BENIN CITY
FOR THE REMAINDER OF APRIL OR UNTIL THE AGREEMENT IS CONCLUDED.
WITH KINDEST PERSONAL REGARDS, (SIGNED)JOE
SIMPKINS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, TIFFANY INDUSTRIES, ST.
LOUIS, MO. UNQTE.

3. TO: HIS EXCELLENCY, BRIGADIER S. OGBEMUDIA, STATE
HOUSE, BENIN:

QTE I HAVE SENT THE FOLLOWING CABLE TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY
OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES:
(QUOTE PARA 2 ABOVE).
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 073854

QTE GOVERNOR, I WILL BE PERSONALLY AVAILABLE AT ANY TIME,
DAY OR NIGHT, DURING THE WEEK OR ON THE WEEKEND TO WORK
WITH YOU TO CONCLUDE THE AGREEMENT.

QTE YOU WILL BE PLEASED WITH THE PLANS WE HAVE FOR IMMEDIATELY
IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECT.

QTE I WILL BE VERY PLEASED TO AGAIN MEET WITH YOU AND THE
OTHER OFFICIALS OF MID-WESTERN STATE, AND I AM LOOKING

FORWARD TO THIS AND FUTURE VISITS TO MID-WESTERN STATE.
WITH kindest personal regards, (signed as above). UNQTE.

4. TO: MR. J. AYO AKINTOBA, 2729 MARTINS STREET (4TH
FLOOR), LAGOS (TEL. 22040):

QTE DEAR JOE: I HAVE SENT THE FOLLOWING CABLE TO HIS
EXCELLENCY, BRIGADIER S. OGBEMUDIA: (QUOTE PAR 3 ABOVE).

QTE JOE, PLEASE MEET US AT LAGOS AIRPORT. WILL ARRIVE ON
PAA FLIGHT 180 AT 12:40 ON SUNDAY, 21 APRIL, AND HAVE
BOOKED RESERVATIONS FOR FOUR ON NIGERIA AIRWAYS FLIGHT
102 AT 8:10 A.M. MONDAY 22 APRIL. PLEASE BOOK ROOMS AT
BENDEL HOTEL, BENIN. (signed) JOE SIMPKINS. UNQTE.
KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE073854
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARMCKEE:RCB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740084-0898
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740447/aaaabqtq.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2002 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <19 DEC 2002 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TIFFANY INDUSTRIES AGRICULTURAL PROJECT IN MID- WEST
TAGS: BTRA, NI
To: LAGOS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005